

REMARKS

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-116 in the above-identified application are subject to a restriction requirement. Claims 1-116 are said to be directed to five separate inventions:

- 1) Claims 1-33 and 66-76 (identified as Group I), drawn to a fiber reinforcement material, a reinforcement for cementitious material, and a reinforced cementitious material, classified in class 428, subclass 364;
- 2) Claims 34-65 (identified as Group II), drawn to a synthetic blend, classified in class 162, subclass 181.1;
- 3) Claims 77-96 (identified as Group III), drawn to a method of forming a reinforcement for cementitious material and a method of forming a reinforced cementitious material, classified in class 156, subclass 166;
- 4) Claims 97-103 (identified as Group IV), drawn to a method of forming a synthetic blend, classified in class 264, subclass 271.1; and
- 5) Claims 104-116 (identified as Group V), drawn to a method of reinforcing a material, classified in class 156, subclass 175.

In this regard, Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-33 and 66-76 without traverse. Although the Examiner has not identified any claim as being generic, responsive to this requirement, Applicants note that upon the allowance of a generic claim, Applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all limitations of the allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.141.

The remaining unelected claims have been canceled, without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute these and other claims in future applications, where appropriate.

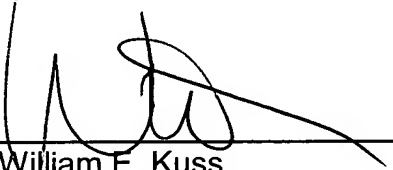
Claims 117-156 have been added to the application, and are believed to be patentable over the prior art of record. Support for the added claims can be found throughout the specification and in the claims. Accordingly, Applicants submit that no new matter has been added to the application with the addition of claims 117-156.

Examination of the claims and passage to allowance at an early date are earnestly solicited.

If the undersigned can be of any assistance to the Examiner in addressing any remaining issue to advance the application to allowance, please contact the undersigned at the number set forth below.

May 18, 2005
Date

Respectfully submitted,



William E. Kuss
Reg. No. 41,919

KIRKPATRICK & LOCKHART NICHOLSON GRAHAM LLP
Henry W. Oliver Building
535 Smithfield Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

voice: 412.355.6323
fax: 412.355.6501